

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-11

ACDA-12 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00

ICAE-00 INRE-00 OMB-01 /123 W

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P 100025Z MAY 78

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1253

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 01873

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PORG, UNSC, SF

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SUBJECT: SOUTH AFRICA ARMS EMBARGO COMMITTEE MEETING MAY 5

1. THE SOUTH AFRICA ARMS EMBARGO COMMITTEE MET PM MAY 5

TO DISCUSS THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL ON THE

IMPLEMENTATION OF SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 418 (UN

DOCUMENT S/12673, DATED APRIL 28). THE REPORT IS

SIMPLY A COMPILATION OF THE RELEVANT SECURITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTIONS (418, WHICH ESTABLISHED THE EMBARGO, AND 421, WHICH ESTABLISHED THE COMMITTEE) AND THE REPLIES WHICH THE SYG HAD RECEIVED (90 TO DATE) TO HIS TWO REQUESTS THAT MEMBER STATES ADVISE HIM OF ACTIONS TAKEN TO IMPLEMENT RESOLUTION 418.

2. AS THE REPORT WAS A MECHANICAL AND NON-CONTROVERSIAL ONE, THE CHAIRMAN (AMBASSADOR BISHARA OF KUWAIT) FOCUSED THE DISCUSSION ON THE QUESTION OF HOW THE COMMITTEE COULD BECOME MORE EFFECTIVE AND SPECIFICALLY HOW THE COMMITTEE COULD OBTAIN INFORMATION ON VIOLATIONS OF THE EMBARGO. OPERATIVE PARA TWO OF SC RES 421 CALLS UPON ALL STATES TO "SUPPLY SUCH INFORMATION AS MAY BE SOUGHT BY THE COMMITTEE IN PURSUANCE OF THE PRESENT RESOLUTION"; HOWEVER, THE COMMITTEE HAS RECEIVED NO INFORMATION WHATSOEVER.

3. THE DISCUSSION WHICH ENSUED WAS BASICALLY CONSTRUCTIVE, ALTHOUGH BY NO MEANS IMAGINATIVE, AND INITIALLY CONFUSED. AMBASSADOR RAMPHUL OF MAURITIUS LED OFF BY APOLOGIZING FOR THE FACT THAT HIS GOVERNMENT HAD NOT YET REPLIED TO THE SYG'S REQUESTS. AMBASSADOR BISHARA THEN PROPOSED THAT THE COMMITTEE SELECT AND APPOINT A STAFF EXPERT WHO WOULD WORK FULL-TIME FOR THE COMMITTEE COMPILING DATA ON ALLEGATIONS OF ARMS EMBARGO VIOLATIONS. THAT PROPOSAL QUICKLY ENDED WHEN CONFIDENTIAL

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BISHARA WAS INFORMED BY THE UN SECRETARIAT THAT AN EXPERT HAD BEEN APPOINTED AND WAS ALREADY SERVING AS DEPUTY SECRETARY TO THE COMMITTEE.

4. AS THE DISCUSSION RAMBLED ON, IT FOCUSED INTERMITTENTLY ON THE QUESTION OF HOW INFORMATION ON VIOLATIONS COULD BE OBTAINED. KUWAIT AND MAURITIUS SUGGESTED THAT THE PERMANENT MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL HAVE THE GREATEST ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND THE "TECHNICAL KNOW-HOW" TO OBTAIN SUCH DATA. NIGERIA LATER JOINED IN, CALLING FOR THE WESTERN MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL TO PROVIDE THE NEEDED INFORMATION; THE SOVIET UNION REITERATED NIGERIA'S CALL. NO ONE RESPONDED.

5. IN THE END THE COMMITTEE AGREED ON FOUR SIMULTANEOUS COURSES OF ACTION:

(A) THE COMMITTEE WOULD ASK THE SYG TO REQUEST AGAIN THAT THOSE MEMBER STATES WHO HAVE NOT DONE SO ADVISE HIM OF ACTION TAKEN TO IMPLEMENT SC RES 418;

(B) THE COMMITTEE WOULD ASK THE SYG TO RENEW HIS APPEAL TO MEMBER STATES TO PROVIDE THE COMMITTEE WITH INFORMATION ON VIOLATIONS;

(C) THE SECRETARIAT OF THE COMMITTEE WOULD BE REQUESTED TO SEEK OUT AND COMPILE INFORMATION ON VIOLATIONS;

(D) THE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN SHOULD CONSULT WITH THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ANTI-APARTHEID COMMITTEE, AS WELL AS WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AND OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS, TO DETERMINE WHAT INFORMATION ON VIOLATIONS CAN BE FOUND.

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6. JUST PRIOR TO CONCLUSION OF MEETING THE BRITISH PROVIDED THE COMMITTEE WITH A 21-PAGE NOTE CONSISTING OF A COMPILATION OF BRITISH LEGISLATION IMPLEMENTING SC RESOLUTION 418. THAT NOTE HAS NOW BEEN CIRCULATED AS SC DOCUMENT S/12494/ADD. 1. YOUNG

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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